

## Message Text

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17

ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DHA-02 L-03 SNM-02 DEAE-00 SSO-00

/020 W

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O 171220Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5516

UNCLAS BUDAPEST 0820

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC (POMPEO, MARIO GERARDIS)

SUBJECT: W/W MARIO GERARDIS POMPEO

REF: BUDAPEST 0705

1. POMPEO RELEASE FROM JAIL SCHEDULED MARCH 17 DID NOT OCCUR BECAUSE OF LAWYER'S LAST-MINUTE INABILITY TO NEGOTIATE THROUGH THE HUNGARIAN NATIONAL BANK A \$3000 CHECK, SENT POMPEO THROUGH THIS OFFICE BY HIS USC SISTER AFTER HIS ARREST SIX MONTHS AGO. LAWYER PRESENTED CHECK FOR PAYMENT THREE WEEKS AGO, AND HUNGARIAN BANK, FOLLOWING NORMAL PROCEDURES, SOUGHT TO VERIFY CHECK THROUGH U.S. BANK. VERIFICATION REPLY, RECEIVED ONLY MARCH 17, AMBIGUOUSLY STATES CHECK MAY BE PAID "IF IN ORDER." BANK REFUSES TO CASH CHECK GIVEN AMBIGUOUS VERIFICATION, AND LAWYER CANNOT PAY POMPEO'S FINE AND COSTS TOTALLING THE EQUIVALENT OF ABOUT \$820. THEREFORE POMPEO REMAINS IN JAIL.

2. BANK IS WILLING TO CASH CHECK IF U.S. CONSUL, IN WHOSE CARE THE CHECK TO POMPEO WAS SENT, GUARANTEES IT. WHILE EMBASSY IS AWARE IT MAY NOT ENDORSE CHECK, IT MAY BE POSSIBLE TO CONVINCE BANK TO PAY IT ON BASIS OF SCS CABLE ASSURANCE THAT U.S. BANK WILL HONOR CHECK.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: SCS PLEASE CONTACT BY PHONE BANKS LISTED IN CHECK DATA FOLLOWING AND ADVISE IMMEDIATE RE BANK ASSURANCES OF PAYABILITY OF CHECK.

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4. THE CHECK IS A "BANK MONEY ORDER" NO. A-14101, BY THE WESTERN

MONTANA NATIONAL BANK, MISSOULA, MONTANA 59801. DATE OCTOBER 14, 1975, AMOUNT \$3000, PAYABLE TO "MR. MARIO GERARDIS POMPEO - CARE OF CONSUL D. THOMAS LONGO, JR." LOWER LEFT OF CHECK INDICATES "TO MORGAN GUARANTY TRUST COMPANY, NEW YORK, N.Y." SIGNATURE ON CHECK APPEARS TO BE "CLARA M. STOUNG." MONTANA BANK'S COMPUTER IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS AT BOTTOM OF CHECK READ: 0210--0023 183 86 504.

5. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS HUNGARIAN BANK RECEIVED THE AMBIGUOUS NEGOTIABILITY FROM MORGAN GUARANTY. EMBASSY RECEIVED CHECK BY MAIL DIRECTLY FROM REMITTER, POMPEO'S SISTER, ADALIA KENCK, ADDRESS 3808 TIMERLANE, MISSOULA, MONTANA 59801.

6. SHOULD FINES AND COSTS REMAIN UNPAID, POMPEO MAY FACE ANOTHER TWO MONTHS IN JAIL.  
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## Message Attributes

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